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Appl. No. 10/708,719
Reply to Non-Final Office Action Mailed 04-26-2007
Amdt. Dated July 23, 2007

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that Applicants' arguments filed January 31, 2001 is persuasive, and that the previous 35 U.S.C. §102 rejections have been withdrawn.

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. Claims 1-21 are currently rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,076,370 ("Freedman"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The presumptive date of invention for claims 1-21 (the filing date) predates the filing date of the cited Freedman reference. The original filing date of the present application is March 19, 2004, whereas the Freedman application was filed on December 16, 2004. Thus, the Freedman document cannot be an application filed by another in the United States before the invention by the Applicant for patent. Clarification of the Examiner's basis for rejection is requested.

In view of the foregoing, the claims pending in the application are believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the application to issue.

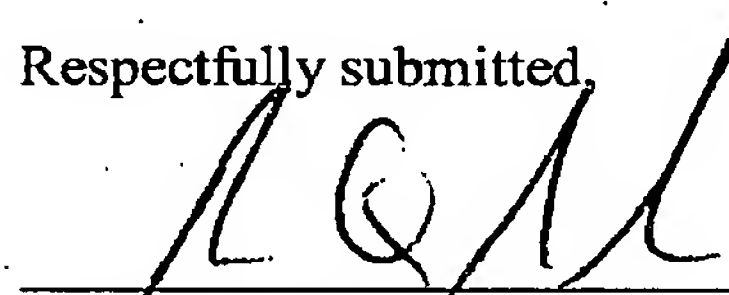
No fee is believed to be due at this time. If the appropriate Petition for an Extension of Time is not attached hereto (or any other Petition required of the application), this statement shall serve as Applicants' Petition to the U.S.P.T.O. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments related to this Response to Deposit Account No. 190610 (20.2903), maintained by Schlumberger Technology Corporation.

The undersigned is available for consultation at any time, if the Examiner believes such consultation may expedite the resolution of any issues.

Date:

07/23/2007

Respectfully submitted,



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